

## State of Illinois Bruce Rauner, Governor



### Illinois Department of Transportation

Randall S. Blankenhorn, Secretary

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# Downstate Summit for Success offers opportunities for minority- and female-owned businesses at IDOT

**COLLINSVILLE** — The Illinois Department of Transportation will host a conference Saturday, Aug. 18, for individuals interested in doing business with the state. This conference is also an opportunity for minority- and female-owned businesses to learn valuable information to help grow their business.

The conference is free and will take place at the Gateway Center, 1 Gateway Drive, in Collinsville. Registration and breakfast are at 7:30 a.m. The conference will conclude with a networking lunch, followed by optional training sessions.

"The Illinois Department of Transportation is committed to making our projects more competitive by helping to grow and diversify Illinois businesses," said Illinois Transportation Secretary Randy Blankenhorn. "I encourage anyone interested in working with IDOT and the state to attend, learn more and take advantage of this valuable resource and the many others we provide."

Staff will be available to discuss how to become certified as a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) and to explain the programs and services that IDOT makes available to help minorities, women and other eligible small businesses.

For more information on becoming a certified DBE, visit the IDOT <u>DBE Certification</u> website.

RSVP for the conference at <a href="https://www.eventbrite.com/e/downstate-summit-for-success-tickets-48008936020">https://www.eventbrite.com/e/downstate-summit-for-success-tickets-48008936020</a>.

Any questions can be directed to Dana Goodrum at <u>dana.goodrum@illinois.gov</u> or 217-782-5490.